

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of providing medical information in emergency and non-emergency situations comprising:

a) providing a user's first medical information-containing electronic device adapted to have non-medical information and medical information read and stored thereon;

b) providing a second medical information-containing electronic device, and a means for carrying the second device such that the second device can be accessed by medical personnel if [[a]] the user is incapacitated, the second medical information-containing electronic device adapted to contain the same information found on the first medical information-containing electronic device with the information being freely accessible from a reader;

c) maintaining the same medical information on each of the first and second devices;

d) simultaneously updating [[reading or writing]] non-medical information or medical information on the first and second devices in a non-emergency situation, and freely reading information on the second device in at least an emergency [[or non-emergency situation]].

2. (currently amended) A system for providing medical information in emergency and non-emergency situations comprising:

a) a user first medical information-containing electronic device adapted to have non-medical information and medical information read and stored thereon;

b) a second medical information-containing electronic device, and a means for carrying the second device such that the second device can be freely accessed by medical personnel if a user is incapacitated, the second medical information-containing electronic device adapted to

contain the same information found on the first medical information-containing electronic device with the information being freely accessible from a reader; and

c) at least a pair of read/write devices for simultaneously reading and/or writing information on each of the first and second devices so that each device has the same medical information thereon, and a computer system for each read/write device for controlling the type of information that can be read and/or written on the read/write devices, one read write device and computer system designed to allow for writing of non-medical information only, and the other read/write device and computer system designed to allow for writing both medical and non-medical information.

3. (original) The system of claim 2, wherein the means for carrying includes a bracelet for the wrist, a necklace for the neck, and a locket to be carried in a shoe or other clothing.

4. (original) The system of claim 2, wherein the second device is read using a medical personnel reader when the user is incapacitated and cannot produce the first device, and the information read is one of displayed, played aloud, or transmitted to a remote source for reading or a combination thereof.

5. (original) The system of claim 2, wherein the second device is attached to a person's wrist, the medical information on the second device relating to the person, and the information is read using a medical personnel reader in a non-emergency or emergency situation.

6. (currently amended) A system for providing medical information in emergency and non-emergency situations comprising:

a) a medical information-containing electronic device and a carrier for storing the medical information-containing electronic device, the medical information pertaining to one of an the inanimate object or a patient; and

c) a first read/write device for reading and/or writing information on the medical information-containing electronic device, and a computer system for the read/write device for controlling the type of information that can be read and/or written on the read/write devices,

d) a second read only device for reading information on the medical information-containing electronic device, the second read only device separate from the first read/write device; and

e) a means for attaching the carrier to one of the inanimate object or patient so that medical information about either the inanimate object and/or the patient can be obtained by using the read only device.

7. (original) The system of claim 6, comprising at least a pair of medical information-containing electronic devices, one to be worn by the patient, and one attached to the inanimate object, each containing the same information about the patient.

8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the means for carrying includes a bracelet for the wrist, a necklace for the neck, and a locket to be carried in a shoe or other clothing.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the second device is read using a medical personnel reader when the user is incapacitated and cannot [[product]] produce the first device, and the information read is one of displayed, played aloud, or transmitted to a remote source for reading or a combination thereof.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the second device is attached to a person's wrist, the medical information on the second device relating to the person, and the information is read using a medical personnel reader in a non-emergency or emergency situation.

11. (original) The system of claim 2, further comprising a medical personnel reader capable of reading the first device, the second device, or both.

12. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the medical personnel reader is a cell phone capable of transmitting the read information, a portable reader with a display for displaying read information, or a reader than employs a spring loaded reading head.

13. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein a medical personnel reader is used in the step for the reading the second device, the medical personnel reader capable of reading the first device, the second device, or both.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the medical personnel reader is a cell phone capable of transmitting the read information, a portable reader with a display for displaying read information, or a reader than employs a spring loaded reading head.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the reading of information on the second device is contactless and is performed by transmitting information using a signal.

16. (currently amended) The system of claim 6, wherein the medical-information containing device transmits the information to the read device for reading in a contactless manner using a signal for transmission.

17. (currently amended) The system of claim 4, wherein the reading using the medical personnel reader is performed in a contactless manner using a signal from the second device.

18. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the means for carrying is one of a foldable locket, a locket with an extendable support, and a metal capsule having a lid.

19. (original) The system of claim 2, wherein the means for carrying is one of a foldable locket, a locket with an extendable support, and a metal capsule having a lid.

20. (original) The system of claim 6, wherein the means for carrying is one of a foldable locket, a locket with an extendable support, and a metal capsule having a lid.

21. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein the inanimate object is a tag associated with one of a medical record and a medical sample container.